

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 1-5, 10A and 10B and replace the original sheets with Figs. 1-5, 10A and 10B.

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending. Figs. 1-5, 10A and 10B are amended to add the reference numerals 150, 250, 350, 450, 550 and 750 that indicate active regions, as required by the Office Action. Replacement sheets and marked-up drawings are attached.

The Office Action objects to the drawings. As indicated above, the drawings are amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objections to the drawings is respectfully solicited.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Takahashi et al. (US 2005/0040413, the "413 publication"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

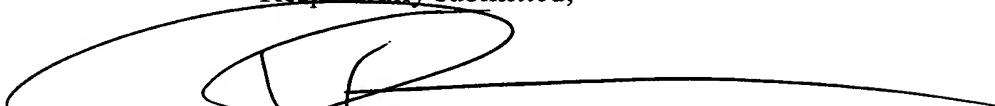
The Office Action rejects all independent claims 1, 8, 15, 17 and 20 substantially based on Fig. 109 discussed on page 79 of the 413 publication. The 413 publication corresponds to U.S. Application No. 10/788,086 (the "086 application") filed on February 27, 2004. The 086 application is a CIP of U.S. Application No. 10/105,800 filed on March 26, 2002 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,765,232 the "232 patent"). The new material added in the 086 application that was not disclosed in the 232 patent begins on page 70 at paragraph 1132. In view of the above, the applied portion of the 413 publication should be accorded an earliest effective filing date of February 27, 2004 instead of March 26, 2002.

As indicated in the claim for priority with certified copy of JP 2003-122697 filed on July 29, 2004 (copy attached including PTO stamped receipt), this application has an earliest effective filing date of April 25, 2003, which is more than 10 months prior to the February 27, 2004 earliest priority date of the 413 publication. Thus, the 413 publication is **NOT** prior art against this application. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully solicited.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Paul Tsou
Registration No. 37,956

JAO:PXT/rle

Attachments:

Drawing Replacement Sheets
Marked-up Copies of Original Drawings
Copy of Claim for Priority and PTO Stamped Receipt
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: February 21, 2006

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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Fig. 1

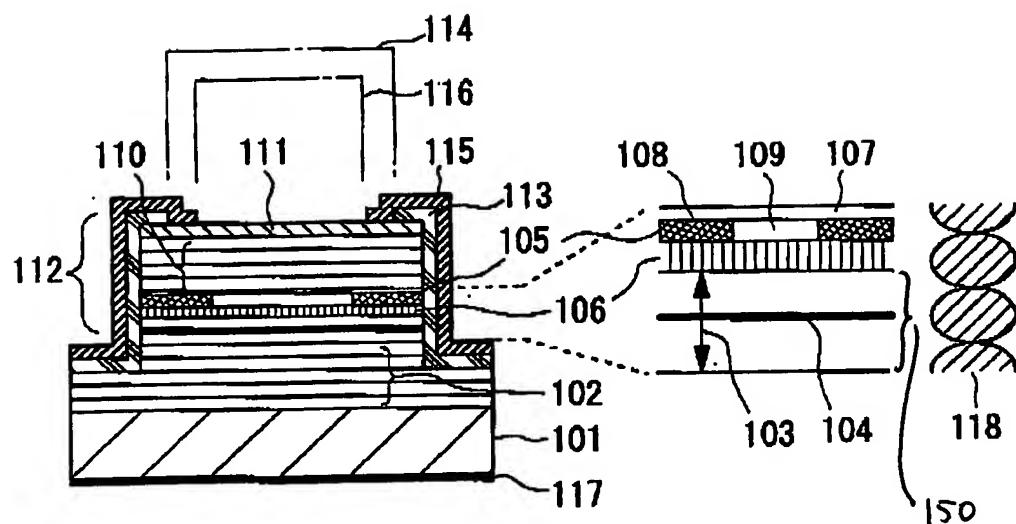


Fig. 2

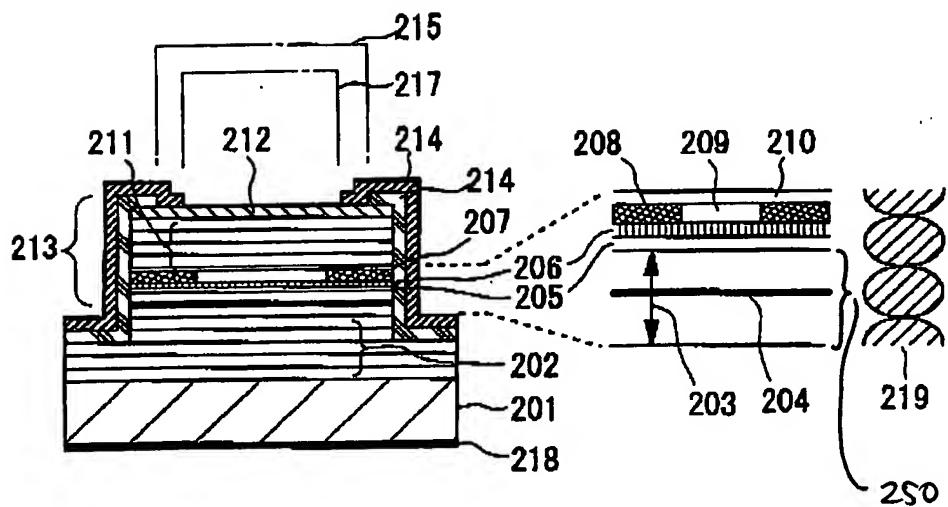




Fig. 3

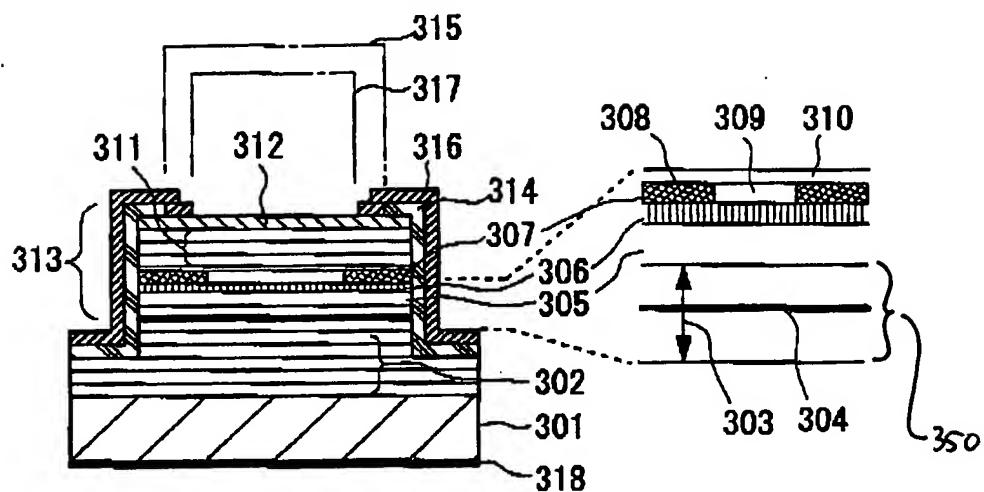


Fig. 4

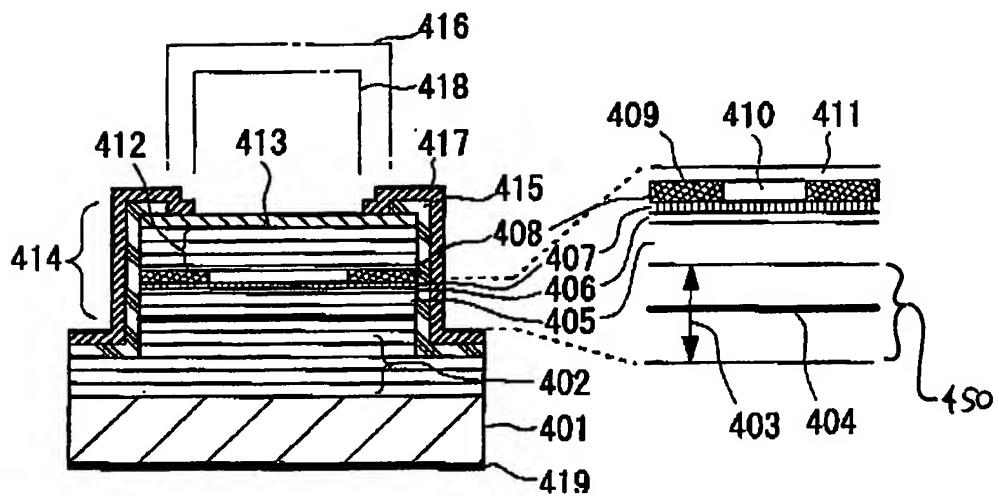




Fig. 5

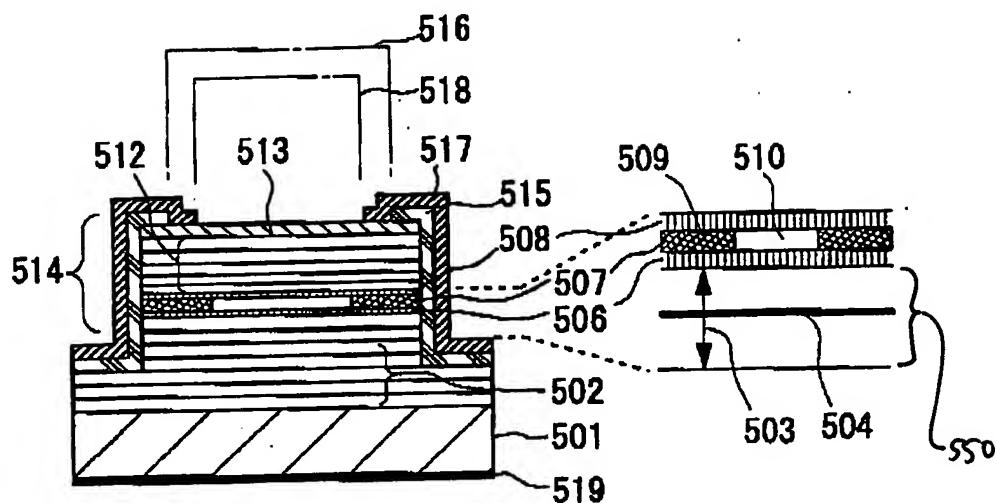




Fig. 10A RELATED ART

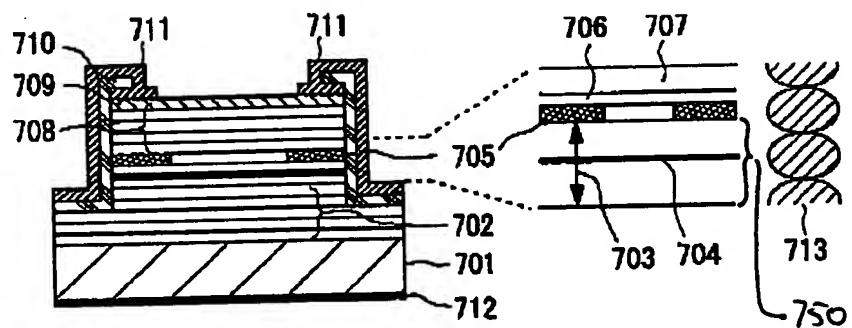


Fig. 10B RELATED ART

